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Claims

1   1. (canceled)

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2. (currently amended) ~~The method according to claim 1 wherein said grouping step includes the~~
2   ~~step of:~~
3   A method of assigning identifying indicia to objects in multidimensional space comprising the steps
4   of:
5   sorting objects initially according to a first dimension of their location in multi- dimensional
6   space;
7   determining ambiguities among coordinate values of their location in the multi-dimensional
8   space according to whether separation of objects in a dimension is less than a predetermined
9   threshold value;
10   grouping subsets of objects according to ambiguities in the objects; and
11   ordering ambiguous objects in subsets according to other dimensions of the multidimensional
12   space.

1   3. (original) The method according to claim 2 wherein said determining step includes the step of
2   ascertaining a predetermined threshold value based on known errors of position measurements.

1   4. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~1~~ 2 including an initial step of:
2   selecting as the first dimension of a multidimensional coordinate system that dimension along
3   which separation of objects exhibits the greatest dispersion.

1   5. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~1~~ 2 wherein said grouping steps includes the
2   step of:
3   determining ambiguities among coordinate values according to whether separation of targets is
4   less than any of a plurality of predetermined threshold values.

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1   6. (original) The method according to claim 2 wherein said determining step includes the step of:

2   ascertaining a predetermined threshold value based on a maximum rate of change of position of

3·   one target with respect to any other.

1   7. (original) The method according to claim 5 wherein said determining step includes the steps of:

2   ascertaining one of said predetermined threshold values based on maximum rate of change of

3   position of one object with respect to any other; and

4   ascertaining another one of said predetermined threshold values based on the random

5   errors of measurements in positions of the objects.

1   8. (original) A method of sorting indicia corresponding to objects moving through a

2   multidimensional space comprising the steps of:

3   scanning the multidimensional space to detect positions of objects therein;

4   assigning unique indicia to each detected object;

5   sorting assigned indicia along one coordinate axis of the multidimensional space;

6   grouping into subsets any indicia exhibiting an ambiguity along the coordinate axis; and

7   ordering indicia in subsets according to other coordinate axes of the multidimensional space.